

In a system for generating hydrogen gas by reforming raw material, steam is continuously supplied while the supply of raw material and air to a reforming unit is stopped, so as to purge residual flammable material within the system with steam such that even if oxygen is supplied, heat generated by a reaction between the residual flammable material within the system and the oxygen does not effect the system, and the steam is removed from the system by air purging so as to prevent adverse effects from condensation.